

**U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Kremmling Field Office
P.O. Box 68
Kremmling, CO 80459**

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

NUMBER: CO-120-2008-51-EA

PROJECT NAME: Confluence Recreation Site Improvements

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: T 1N, R 80W, sec 19

APPLICANT: BLM

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES:

Background: In 2001, BLM improved the road that provides access to the confluence of the Blue and Colorado Rivers. This road starts at Grand County Road 1 (Trough Road) and continues through an acquired easement. The improved road provided access for whitewater boater and anglers. Along with the access road, a small parking area and a vault toilet were constructed. There were no improvements to the existing natural surface launch ramp. The launch ramp is very steep (between 40 and 45 degrees). The 2001 improvements have enhanced recreation experience opportunities through better access. Observations from recreation patrols suggest use at the site has increased in recent years, primarily from the whitewater boaters. The increased use has resulted in a need for improving traffic flow and reducing public safety concerns with the steep launch ramp.

Proposed Action: The BLM would reroute the access road at the site northeast of the vault toilet to create a one way traffic flow in the parking area (see attached drawings C2 and C3). The new road cut would include a 14-foot road surface, a drainage ditch, and a 1.5 to 1 backslope. The width of the disturbance would be approximately 35-feet at the widest point.

The final face of the backslope would be approximately 20-30 feet. The face of the backslope would be finished as rough as possible with excavation equipment and seeded with an appropriate seed mix. Sediment control materials (i.e. wattles) would be placed on the face of the backslope to enhance re-vegetation.

Retaining walls would be constructed to support the southwest side of the existing parking area to increase its size. A new parking area would be constructed southwest of the existing access road, including retaining walls, similar to the improvements on the existing parking area (see attached drawings C2, C3, & C4 below).

A new boat slide would be constructed to reduce safety concerns with the existing steep launch ramp. The boat slide would have concrete steps for walking, and a steel framework to slide boats down to the river (see attached drawings C5 & C6 below).

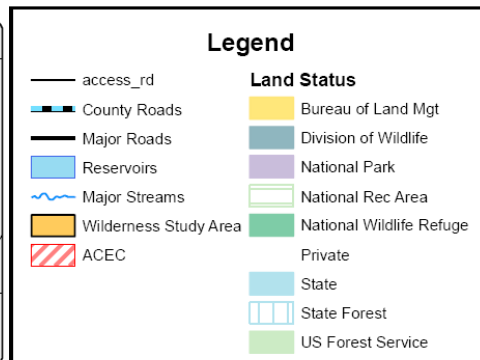
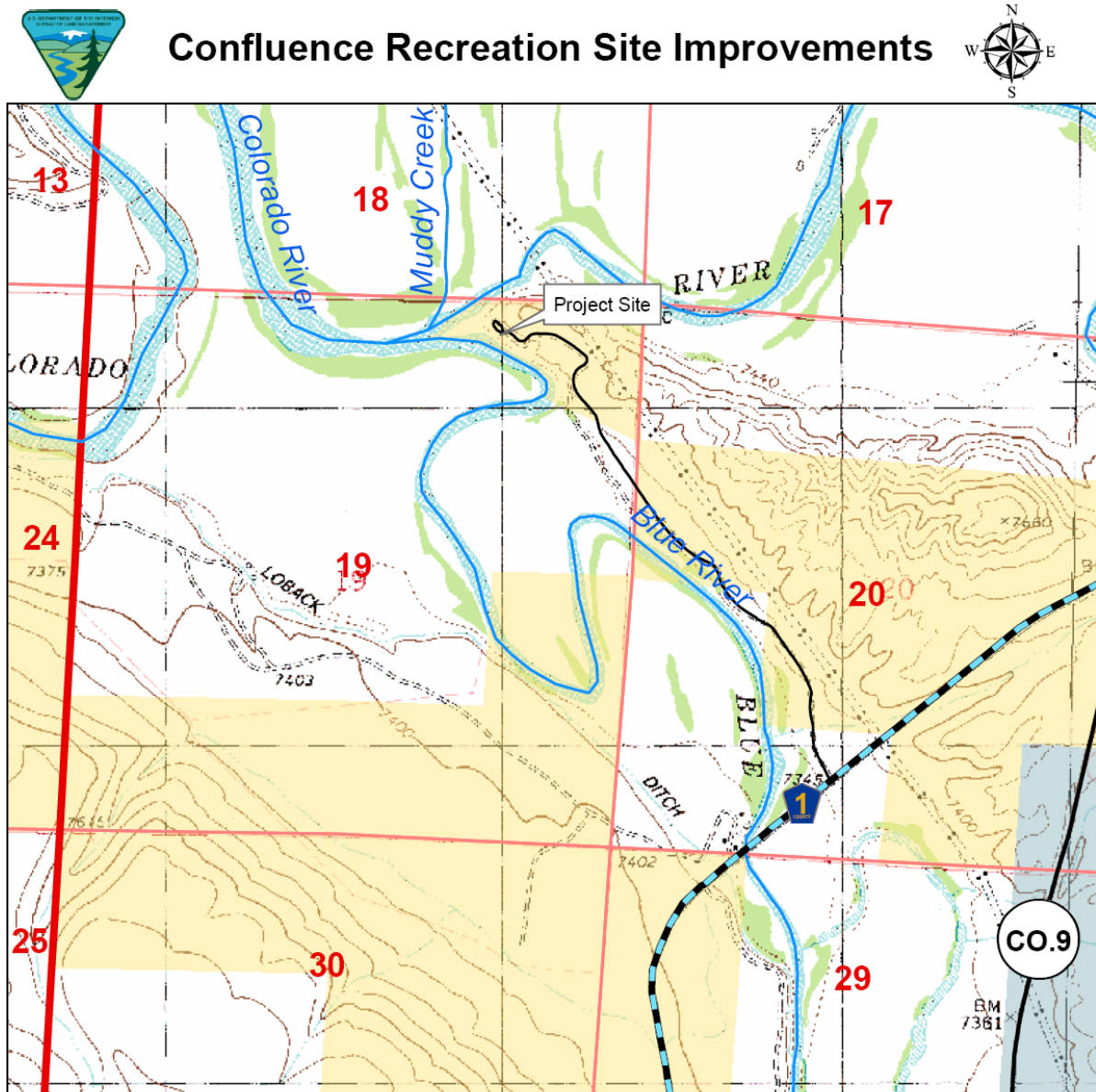
The recreation site would be closed intermittently during the planned construction period of mid-to-late September. Temporary public access to the Blue River would be signed upstream of the confluence. The project would be completed by a contractor.

Design Features of the Proposed Action:

- The BLM would monitor the project area for the establishment or spread of invasive, non-native species after the project is completed. If invasive, non-native species become established as a result of the Proposed Action, BLM would be responsible for their control.
- To help seeding success, all possible topsoil (roughly 4-6 inches of surface soil above the clay layer) and vegetation should be scraped from the planned surface disturbances (road cut, parking lot expansion) and stockpiled. Topsoil should be re-spread on sites to be seeded wherever possible.
- Soil erosion would be controlled through use of mulch, erosion fabric, wattles, etc. Although the final vegetative cover may be sparse, it should be stable and equivalent to undisturbed sites 3-years after the disturbance. The BLM Kremmling Field Office would be responsible for reseeding the disturbed sites.
- All areas that are re-seeded should be signed as closed until vegetation becomes established.
- When the existing wattles at the edge of the existing parking area are removed during the project's construction, then the retaining wall and/or temporary erosion control measures would need to be in place to retain sediment from leaving the site.

- The proposed boat slide would be built with the construction equipment remaining on the upland bench.
- Wattles would be placed below the boat slide during construction to trap any runoff sediment resulting from construction activities.
- The KFO staff archaeologist/paleontologist would monitor the excavation work during and post construction. Should fossils or cultural resources be discovered, the standard cultural/paleontological stipulations would be applied to halt construction in the vicinity of the discovery until it can be documented, evaluated and excavated, as needed. The staff paleontologist would be given a 10-day notification prior to construction so that schedules can be arranged to monitor the geologic exposures during and post construction.

Project Area Map:



0 0.05 0.1 0.2 Miles

1:16,000

No Warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management as to the Accuracy, Reliability, or Completeness of this Data for Individual Use or Aggregate Use with Other Data.

Maps: BLM, Kremmling FO XX/XX/2007

No Action Alternative: The parking area would not be improved and the boat slide would not be constructed under this alternative.

PURPOSE AND NEED FOR THE ACTION: The purpose of the project is to consider improvements to the Confluence Recreation site. There is a need to consider the improvements due to the increased traffic and use, and to address the safety concerns associated with the existing launch ramp.

PLAN CONFORMANCE REVIEW: The Proposed Action is subject to and has been reviewed for conformance with the following plan (43 CFR 1610.5, BLM 1617.3):

Name of Plan: Kremmling Resource Management Plan (RMP), Record of Decision (ROD)

Date Approved: December 19, 1984; Updated February 1999

Decision Number/Page: Resource Decision #7, Page #11

Decision Language:

Objective: “To ensure the continued availability of outdoor recreational opportunities which the public seeks and which are not readily available from other sources, to reduce the impact of the recreational use on fragile and unique resource values, and to provide for visitor safety, and resource interpretation.”

Implementation: “Manage and fund the Upper Colorado River Special Recreation Management Area to provide river recreational opportunities and to reduce resource damage, solve visitor health and safety problems and mitigate conflicts.”

Standards for Public Land Health: In January 1997, Colorado Bureau of Land Management (BLM) approved the Standards for Public Land Health. Standards describe conditions needed to sustain public land health and relate to all uses of the public lands. The following are the approved standards:

Standard	Definition/Statement
#1 Upland Soils	Upland soils exhibit infiltration and permeability rates that are appropriate to soil type, climate, land form, and geologic processes. Adequate soil infiltration and permeability allows for the accumulation of soil moisture necessary for optimal plant growth and vigor, and minimizes surface runoff.
#2 Riparian Systems	Riparian systems associated with both running and standing water, function properly and have the ability to recover from major surface disturbances such as fire, severe grazing, or 100-year floods. Riparian vegetation captures sediment, and provides forage, habitat and bio-diversity. Water quality is improved or maintained. Stable soils store and release water slowly.
#3 Plant and Animal Communities	Healthy, productive plant and animal communities of native and other desirable species are maintained at viable population levels commensurate with the species and habitat's potential. Plants and animals at both the community and population level are productive, resilient, diverse, vigorous, and able to reproduce and sustain natural fluctuations, and ecological processes.
#4 Threatened and Endangered Species	Special status, threatened and endangered species (federal and state), and other plants and animals officially designated by the BLM, and their habitats are maintained or enhanced by sustaining healthy, native plant and animal communities.

#5 Water Quality	The water quality of all water bodies, including ground water where applicable, located on or influenced by BLM lands will achieve or exceed the Water Quality Standards established by the State of Colorado. Water Quality Standards for surface and ground waters include the designated beneficial uses, numeric criteria, narrative criteria, and anti-degradation requirements set forth under State law as found in (5 CCR 1002-8), as required by Section 303(c) of the Clean Water Act.
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Because a standard exists for these five categories, a finding must be made for each of them in the environmental analysis. These findings are located in specific elements below or in the Interdisciplinary Team Analysis Review Record and Checklist (IDT-RRC) (Appendix 1).

AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT / ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES / MITIGATION MEASURES:

CRITICAL ELEMENTS: The following critical elements: Air Quality, Areas of Critical Environmental Concern, Cultural Resources, Environmental Justice, Farmlands- Prime and Unique, Native American Religious Concerns, Wastes, Hazardous or Solid, Wetlands and Riparian Zones, Wild and Scenic Rivers, and Wilderness were evaluated and determined that they were not present or that there would be no impact to them from the Proposed Action or No Action Alternative. See IDT-RRC in Appendix 1 for further information.

The following critical elements were determined to be potentially impacted and were carried forward for analysis from the IDT-RRC in Appendix 1.

FLOODPLAINS

Affected Environment: The Confluence Site is located along the Blue River just upstream of its confluence with the Colorado River. This segment of the Blue River is controlled by the operations of the Green Mountain Dam which is roughly 15-miles upstream. Using the reservoir's data, the river's peak flows have exceeded 2,000 cubic-feet/seconds (cfs) only 5 times. The maximum peak flow recorded is 4,040 cfs in July 1995. It is unlikely to see much higher flows in the future, especially with potential changes in reservoir operations. There are proposed projects that could increase trans-basin diversions and/or pump-back operations on the Blue River that could reduce reservoir releases.

Looking at the streambank, it appears that the active floodplain contains flood flows and is delineated by a line of small cottonwoods, approximately 6.8-feet above the surveyed water line. The bankfull or channel shaping flows that occur on a relatively frequent basis are also indicated by the change in slope, approximately 2.3-feet higher than the surveyed (Oct., 2006) water line of approximately 350 cfs. Looking at 65 years of discharges, the bankfull flow would be around 1,200 cfs.

The Proposed Action is primarily located on a bench overlooking the current floodplain. The proposed boat slide goes down towards the floodplain, but the proposed steps would stop just at the active floodplain. The proposed anchor post for the stairwell is within the active floodplain, but above the bankfull flow line by about 1.7-feet.

Environmental Consequences: The Proposed Action would not affect the floodplain's functionality, nor would it increase flood hazards. The boat slide steps would be above expected high flows. The anchor post could be near or below the high water line during flood flows. This could result in some scour or deposition around the post, but would not occur on a frequent basis. If needed in the future, additional riprap or protection of the post could be added to protect the structure. There would be no impacts to the floodplain from the No Action Alternative.

INVASIVE, NON-NATIVE SPECIES

Affected Environment: There are no known invasive, non-native species (noxious weeds) growing in the project area. However, any soil or vegetation disturbing activities provide an avenue for the establishment or expansion of invasive, non-native species.

Environmental Consequences: The Proposed Action would include areas of disturbance associated with constructing the new boat slide and the road/parking area. These areas of disturbance would be susceptible to the invasion or spread of invasive, non-native species. As a result, the BLM is proposing to monitor and treat any non-native species that become established. There would be no impacts from the No Action Alternative.

MIGRATORY BIRDS

Affected Environment: A variety of migratory bird species, primarily birds of prey and songbirds, have been observed in the proposed project area. Surveys conducted in 1994 by the Colorado Breeding Bird Atlas Partnership recorded many species including Cooper's hawks, Red-tailed hawks, Golden Eagles, Mountain Bluebirds, Common Nighthawks, American Robins, Barn and Cliff swallows, Killdeer, Mountain Chickadees, Mourning Doves, and Violet-green swallows.

Environmental Consequences: The construction activities, including increased traffic on the road and noise, may temporarily displace birds that use the area. However, sufficient habitat exists adjacent to the proposed site to support birds displaced by the construction. If birds are nesting adjacent to the project area when activity begins, they may abandon their nest. Impacts to migratory birds in the form of noise and vegetative disturbances would be more likely if construction activities were planned to occur between April 1st to June 15th. However, since construction is planned for the fall of 2008, there would be minimal disturbances to migratory birds. There would be no impacts to migratory birds from the No Action Alternative.

THREATENED, ENDANGERED, AND SENSITIVE SPECIES (includes a finding on Standard 4)

Affected Environment: A list of threatened, endangered, and candidate species which could inhabit the area was received for the United States Fish and Wildlife Service on March 31, 2008. Analysis of this list indicated that no listed species would be affected by the proposed project.

Bald eagles, recently delisted from threatened status, are winter residents of the Colorado River corridor in the proposed project area.

Environmental Consequences: The proposed project would not remove any bald eagle habitat features such as roost or perch trees, nor would construction activities impact river habitat. Thus, the Proposed Action and No Action Alternative would not impact bald eagles.

Finding on the Public Land Health Standard for Threatened & Endangered species: Neither the Proposed Action nor the No Action Alternative would prevent this area from meeting Standard 4.

WATER QUALITY, SURFACE AND GROUND (includes a finding on Standard 5)

Affected Environment: The Proposed Action is within the Lower Blue River 5th Order watershed in the Upper Colorado River Basin. Downstream of the site is the confluence with the Colorado River. Water quality within the Blue River is monitored upstream of the site by Denver Water Board, and water quality downstream of the site is monitored on the Colorado River at the mouth of Gore Canyon by the United States Geological Survey (USGS). The Blue River is classified for aquatic life- coldwater class 1, recreation- class 1a, water supply, and agricultural uses. There are no known water quality concerns and the water quality is considered to be “fully supporting” designated uses. The Colorado Non-Point Source Technical Committee toured the Confluence Site after the initial construction to review the BLM’s best management practices (BMPs). They concluded that the site development adequately protected water quality.

Environmental Consequences: The proposed project is primarily located on an upland bench adjacent to the active floodplain. The existing site and the planned construction areas total an area that is smaller than 1-acre, and would not require a stormwater permit. During construction, there is potential for runoff reaching the edge of the bench and travelling downslope to the river. At present, there are staked wattles along the edge of the bench from the earlier construction work that retain sediment on the bench. When the existing wattles are removed during this project’s construction, then the retaining wall and/or temporary erosion control measures need to be in place to retain sediment from leaving the site. The proposed construction period is after the usual high intensity thunderstorms that tend to generate the most runoff. At the completion of the project, erosion control would be provided by re-vegetation of the road cut, wattles at the foot of the cut, and wattles along the edge of the bench.

The proposed boat slide would be built with the construction equipment remaining on the upland bench (Engineering Field Office, April 2008). The river flows would be expected to be low (i.e. below 500 cfs), and the disturbance primarily on the slope above the active floodplain. Due to the small area of disturbance (<600 ft.²), and implementation of BMPs included in the design features of the Proposed Action, the potential amount of sediment loading to the river would be minimal. Under the No Action Alternative, the existing boat slide would continue to erode and channelize runoff from the bench down the slope.

Ground water quality would not be impacted by the Proposed Action or the No Action Alternative.

Finding on the Public Land Health Standard for water quality: The Proposed Action is located in an area that is considered to be meeting Standard 5. The parking lot expansion would fill in an existing gully and provide a less erosive drainage pattern for the bench. The boat slide would provide the public with a safe, non-erosive river access that does not channelize runoff from the bench down the slope. The Proposed Action would help maintain or improve water quality for the site.

NON-CRITICAL ELEMENTS: The following non-critical elements were determined to be potentially impacted and were carried forward for analysis from the IDT-RRC in Appendix 1.

SOILS (includes a finding on Standard 1)

Affected Environment: The Proposed Action includes a road cut that would be located in a soil priority area identified in the RMP. Soil priority areas identify areas where soils receive “special management emphasis or priority” for resource protection. The soils are mapped as Waybe clay loams, 10-55% slopes in the Grand County Soil Survey. This mapping unit formed in residuum from shale and mudstone. It has a high runoff potential, is considered highly erodible, and has a low tolerance to erosion. A low tolerance to erosion means that the soil’s fertility is easily affected (reduced) by erosion. The clay loam surface is underlain by clay, with weathered shale less than two feet below the surface. Plant available moisture is low, and cut and fill slopes should be minimized to prevent slippage. The soils tend to be moderately alkaline.

Environmental Consequences: Re-vegetating disturbed areas would be difficult on the site. The proposed cut slope adjacent to the new road would be difficult to seed because of its steep slope. The Proposed Action specifies that the cut slope would be left with as “rough of a soil surface as possible”. This will increase the microtopography of the slope, which would help increase soil moisture and decrease the amount of rilling on the slope. Runoff from the cut slope would be collected in the road’s ditch and released into an upland site at a stable location in a non-erosive manner.

The area behind retaining wall #1 slopes to the inlet drain. Runoff would be travelling across a graveled surface reducing the sediment load to the drain. If needed to reduce frequency of cleanout, the inlet could be protected in the future. The outlet of the drain would be stabilized, and discharge water in a non-erosive manner.

There appears to be no planned drain for the area around retaining wall #2. The resulting grade on either side of the wall should discharge little to no sediment from the site, but runoff water needs to drain from the parking lot without causing erosion on the slope.

Since re-vegetation of the slopes would not be in the construction contract, the Kremmling Field Office would be responsible for using practices contained in the design features of the Proposed Action to stabilize the soils.

Finding on the Public Land Health Standard for upland soils: The Proposed Site is a small area of disturbed soils. By gravelling or reseeding disturbed areas, creating gentle grades, and using erosion control practices, the Proposed Action would not hinder the larger surrounding area from meeting the Standard.

VEGETATION (includes a finding on Standard 3)

Affected Environment: The project area contains a mixture of native and introduced species. The native grasses and forbs include western wheatgrass (*Pascopyrum smithii*), native bluegrasses (*Poa* spp), needle grasses (*Stipa* spp), Indian ricegrass (*Achnatherum hymenoides*) and bottlebrush squirreltail (*Elymus elymoides*). The area has been disturbed in the past and as a

result introduced species in the form of escaped pasture grasses such as smooth brome (*Bromus inermis*), timothy (*Phleum pratense*), and Kentucky bluegrass (*Poa pratensis*) are prevalent in the project area. Sedges (*Carex* spp) and rushes (*Balticus* spp and *Scirpus* spp) can be found near the water's edge. Forbs include wild buckwheat (*Eriogonum*), yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*), penstemons (*Penstemon* spp), groundsel (*Senecio* spp), and dandelion (*Taraxicum officinale*). Shrubs include big sagebrush (*Artemisia tridentata*), snowberry (*Symphoricarpos* spp), rabbitbrush (*Chrysothamnus* spp), and serviceberry (*Amelanchier* spp).

Environmental Consequences: The Proposed Action would create areas of disturbance to the vegetation within the project area. Those areas that would be severely disturbed would be re-seeded by the BLM. Re-seeded areas would require protection from traffic until the vegetation becomes established. The practices contained in the Proposed Action would help to mitigate impacts to vegetation. Under the No Action Alternative, there would continue to be minor impacts to vegetation in the area of the existing boat ramp as a result boating traffic.

Finding on the Public Land Health Standard for plant and animal communities (partial, see also Wildlife, Aquatic and Wildlife, Terrestrial): The project area has not been assessed for compliance with the Standards for Public Land Health in Colorado.

WILDLIFE, AQUATIC (includes a finding on Standard 3)

Affected Environment: The proposed project is adjacent to the Colorado River, which supports an abundant amount of aquatic wildlife, coldwater fish, ducks, geese, beavers, river otters, and muskrats.

Environmental Consequences: Increased traffic and noise as a result of the proposed construction activities would temporarily displace wildlife that uses the area. However, sufficient habitat exists both upstream and downstream along the Colorado River to support wildlife displaced by the activities associated with the proposed project.

Finding on the Public Land Health Standard for plant and animal communities (partial, see also Vegetation and Wildlife, Terrestrial): Neither the Proposed Action nor the No Action Alternative would prevent this area from meeting Standard 3.

WILDLIFE, TERRESTRIAL (includes a finding on Standard 3)

Affected Environment: A variety of upland wildlife depends on the habitat that surrounds the proposed project area. Rocky Mountain elk primarily use the area in winter while Mule deer use the area both in summer and winter months. Badgers, coyotes, cottontail rabbits, and a variety of small rodents live in the area on a year-long basis.

Environmental Consequences: Increased traffic and noise as a result of the proposed construction activities would temporarily displace wildlife that uses the area. However, sufficient habitat exists adjacent to the proposed site to support wildlife displaced by the construction activities associated with the proposed project.

Finding on the Public Land Health Standard for plant and animal communities (partial, see also Vegetation and Wildlife, Aquatic): Neither the Proposed Action nor the No Action Alternative would prevent this area from meeting Standard 3.

PALEONTOLOGY

Affected Environment: The Area of Potential Effect (APE) is geologically mapped as the Pierre Shale. This formation is given a Condition 2 ranking and a Potential Fossil Yield Classification (PFYC) of 3. Pierre Shale is known to have a high potential for the discovery of invertebrate and plant fossil, and occasionally vertebrate fossils. A pedestrian inventory of the APE was completed with no fossils discovered.

Environmental Consequences: Excavation for the road re-route and other improvements would create a 20' to 30' cut into the Pierre Shale, and afford an excellent opportunity to examine freshly excavated soils and bedrock exposures for fossil resources. The KFO Archeologist would monitor the construction activity for possible impacts to paleontological resources.

RECREATION:

Affected Environment: The Proposed Action is at the Confluence Recreation Site within the Upper Colorado Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA). The site is managed to provide access to walk-in anglers and whitewater rafters and kayakers. The whitewater boating access is for Gore Canyon, a class-V whitewater section. The site receives an estimated 2,000 user-days annually. There are 15 commercial outfitters that are permitted to use the site to access the river. The primary season of use is late July through early September when the river flows are lower. The site is used for a nationally recognized whitewater race in mid August.

Environmental Consequences: The Proposed Action would improve traffic flow at the site and provide better access to vehicles that use trailers to carry inflated rafts. The boat slide would improve safety to the users while accessing the river from the parking lot. The proposed construction time of early to mid-September would impact late season boaters, however, the use drops considerably in September, and so the impacts would be minor. The Proposed Action would enhance the recreation experiences of the users following construction. The proposed improvements would move the physical setting at the site toward a more overall developed setting. The whitewater rapids in Gore Canyon and not the river access site itself is the most important setting characteristic of the visitor's experience to the SRMA.

ACCESS AND TRANSPORTATION

Affected Environment: The access road to the Confluence Recreation Site was improved in 2001 to provide access to an acquired parcel. The road is primarily used by kayakers, rafters and anglers. The kayakers and rafters use the recreation site to access Gore Canyon. Anglers use the site to access the confluence of the Colorado and Blue Rivers. The highest use of the access is during the late summer and early fall by the rafters and kayakers. There are no other alternative public accesses to the recreation site.

Environmental Consequences: Access to the site would be lost to the public during the construction period in the fall. This impact would be minimized through the proposed identification of public access upstream of the recreation site in the Proposed Action.

CUMULATIVE IMPACTS SUMMARY: All resource values have been evaluated for cumulative impacts. It has been determined that there would be no cumulative impacts since the project would provide improvements to an already disturbed and developed recreation site.

PERSONS / AGENCIES CONSULTED: 2 commercial river outfitters that have the highest use numbers in Gore Canyon were contacted. (Greg Kelchner of Timberline Tours and Diana Whitmer of Arkansas Valley Adventures) Both thought the improvements would be a positive improvement to the site. There was concern from Ms. Whitmer about the timing of the construction and the impact to access. There would not be significant impact if the site is available to the public on weekends.

The proposed project was posted on the Kremmling Field Office Internet NEPA Register and public room NEPA board.

INTERDISCIPLINARY REVIEW: See IDT-RRC in Appendix 1.

FONSI

CO-120-2008-51-EA

Based on the analysis of potential environmental impacts contained in the attached environmental assessment, and considering the significance criteria in 40 CFR 1508.27, I have determined that the Proposed Action will not have a significant effect on the human environment. An environmental impact statement is therefore not required.

DECISION RECORD

DECISION: It is my decision to authorize the Proposed Action as described in the attached EA. This decision is contingent on meeting all mitigation measures and monitoring requirements listed below.

RATIONALE: The Confluence improvements will improve the traffic flow and reduce public safety concerns with the existing steep launch ramp.

MITIGATION MEASURES: (See Attachment #1)

NAME OF PREPARER: Andy Windsor

NAME OF ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATOR: Joe Stout

DATE: 7/29/08

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL: /s/ David Stout

DATE SIGNED: 8/13/08

ATTACHMENTS:

- 1). Stipulations
- 2). Drawings

APPENDICES:

Appendix 1 – Interdisciplinary Team Analysis Review Record and Checklist

Attachment #1 Stipulations

Design Features of the Proposed Action:

- To help seeding success, all possible topsoil (roughly 4-6 inches of surface soil above the clay layer) and vegetation will be scraped from the planned surface disturbances (road cut, parking lot expansion) and stockpiled. Topsoil will be re-spread on sites to be seeded wherever possible.
- When the existing wattles are removed during the project's construction, then the retaining wall and/or temporary erosion control measures will need to be in place to retain sediment from leaving the site.
- The proposed boat slide will be built with the construction equipment remaining on the upland bench.
- Wattles would be placed below the boat slide during construction to trap any runoff sediment resulting from construction activities.
- The KFO staff archaeologist/paleontologist would monitor the excavation work during and post construction. Should fossils be discovered, the standard cultural/paleontological stipulations would be applied to halt construction in the vicinity of the discovery until it can be documented, evaluated and excavated, as needed. The staff paleontologist would be given a 10-day notification prior to construction so that schedules can be arranged to monitor the geologic exposures during and post construction.

Standard Cultural & Paleontological stipulations:

For purposes of this document and the application of these stipulations, the "holder" is the BLM contractor hired to complete this project.

The holder shall immediately bring to the attention of the Authorized Officer any and all antiquities, or other objects of historic, paleontological, or scientific interest including but not limited to, historic or prehistoric ruins or artifacts DISCOVERED as a result of operations under this authorization (16 U.S.C. 470.-3, 36 CFR 800.112). The holder shall immediately suspend all activities in the area of the object and shall leave such discoveries intact until written approval to proceed is obtained from the Authorized Officer. Approval to proceed will be based upon evaluation of the object(s). Evaluation shall be by a qualified professional selected by the Authorized Officer from a Federal agency insofar as practicable (BLM Manual 8142.06E). When not practicable, the holder shall bear the cost of the services of a non-Federal professional.

Within five working days the Authorized Officer will inform the holder as to:

- Whether the materials appear eligible for the National Register of Historic Places;
- The mitigation measures the holder will likely have to undertake before the site can be used (assuming in situ preservation is not necessary); and,
- A timeframe for the Authorized Officer to complete an expedited review under 36 CFR 800.11 to confirm, through the State Historic Preservation Officer, that the findings of the Authorized Officer are correct and that mitigation is appropriate.

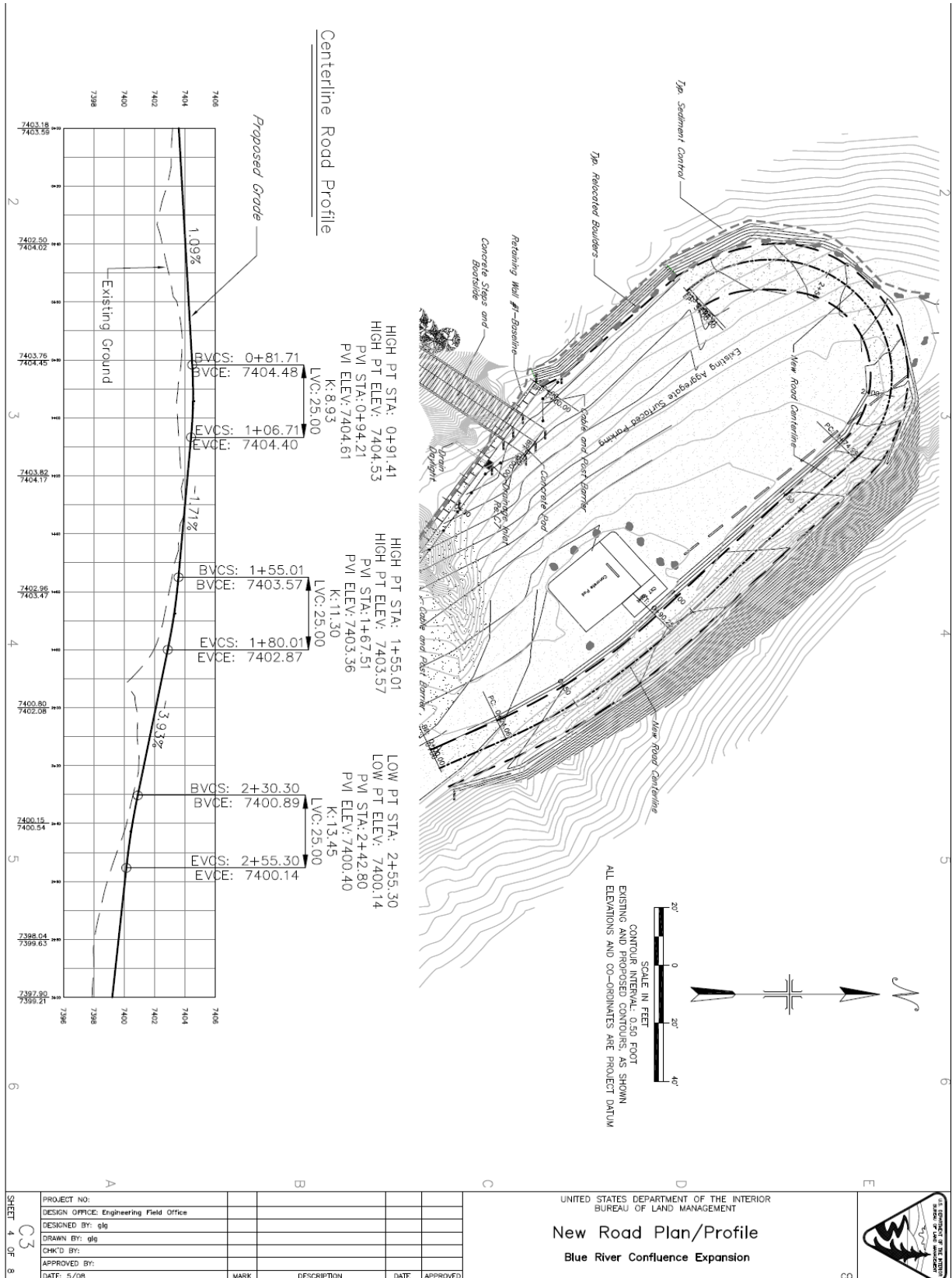
If the holder wishes, at any time, to relocate activities to avoid the expense of mitigation and/or the delays associated with this process, the Authorized Officer will assume responsibility for whatever recordation and stabilization of the exposed materials may be required. Otherwise, the holder will be responsible for mitigation costs. The Authorized Officer will provide technical and procedural guidelines for the conduct of mitigation. Upon verification from the Authorized Officer that the required mitigation has been completed, the holder will then be allowed to resume construction.

Antiquities, historic, prehistoric ruins, paleontological or objects of scientific interest that are outside of the authorization boundaries but directly associated with the impacted resource will also be included in this evaluation and/or mitigation.

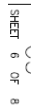
Antiquities, historic, prehistoric ruins, paleontological or objects of scientific interest, identified or unidentified, that are outside of the authorization and not associated with the resource within the authorization will also be protected. Impacts that occur to such resources, which are related to the authorizations activities, will be mitigated at the holder's cost.

Pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4(g), the holder of this authorization must notify the Authorized Officer, by telephone, with written confirmation, immediately upon the discovery of human remains, funerary items, sacred objects, or objects of cultural patrimony. Further, pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4 (c) and (d), you must stop activities in the vicinity of the discovery and protect it for 30 days or until notified to proceed by the Authorized Officer.

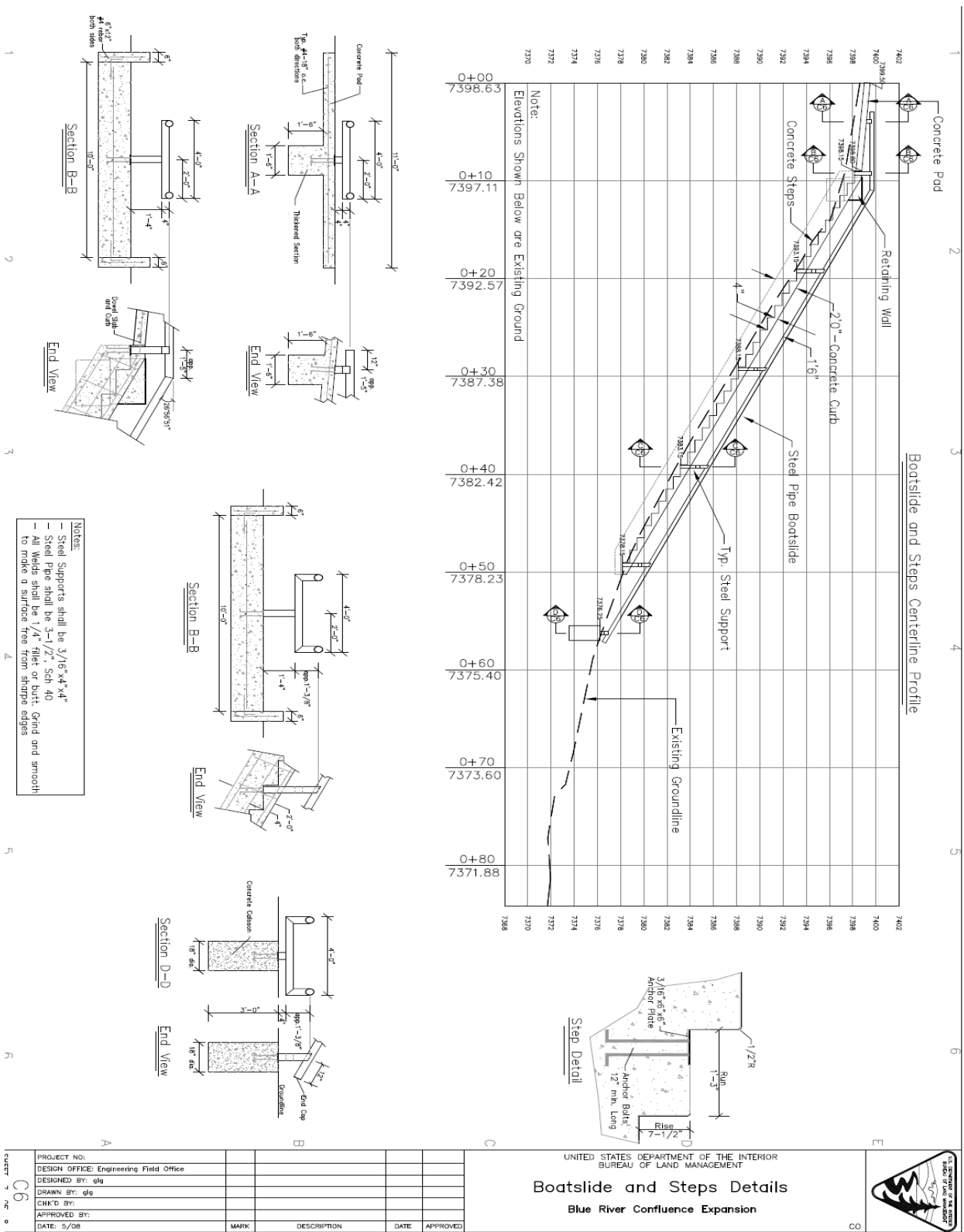
Drawing C3:



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Drawing C6:



Appendix 1

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM ANALYSIS REVIEW RECORD AND CHECKLIST:

Project Title: Confluence Recreation Site Improvements

Project Leader: Andy Windsor

Consultation/Permit Requirements:

Consultation	Date Initiated	Date Completed	Responsible Specialist/ Contractor	Comments
Cultural/Archeological Clearance/SHPO	7/24/08		BBW	No new or previously known cultural resources are present. The proposed action is a no effect, there are no historic properties that would be affected.
Native American	5/9/08	7/24/08	BBW	To date ,no Native American Tribe has identified any area of traditional concern.
T&E Species/FWS	N/A	N/A	M. McGuire	
Permits Needed (i.e. Air or Water)	N/A	N/A	P. Belcher	The entire Confluence Site is less than 1 acre in size, so no stormwater permit is needed. The boat slide work is above the high water line and no material is being place below the waterline or in a wetland area, so no 404 permit is required.

(NP) = Not Present

(NI) = Resource/Use Present but Not Impacted

(PI) = Potentially Impacted and Brought Forward for Analysis.

NP NI PI	Discipline/Name	Date Review Comp.	Initials	Review Comments (required for Critical Element NIs, and for elements that require a finding but are not carried forward for analysis.)
CRITICAL ELEMENTS				
NI	Air Quality Belcher	7/23/08	PB	Air Quality would not be impacted by the Proposed Action.
NP	Areas of Critical Environmental Concern J. Stout	7/30/08	JS	There are no Areas of Critical Environmental Concern in the proximity of the proposed project area.
NP	Cultural Resources Wyatt	7/24/08	BBW	A Class III cultural resource inventory (Report #CR-08-40) located no new or previously recorded sites in the project area. Thus, no historic properties would be impacted.
NP	Environmental Justice J. Stout	7/30/08	JS	According to the most recent Census Bureau statistics (2000), there are no minority or low income communities within the Kremmling Planning Area.
NP	Farmlands, Prime and Unique Belcher	7/23/08	PB	There are no farmlands, prime or unique, in the proximity of the proposed project area.
PI	Floodplains Belcher	7/23/08	PB	See analysis in EA
PI	Invasive, Non-native Species Scott	7/7/08	MS	See analysis in EA
PI	Migratory Birds McGuire	7/18/08	MM	See analysis in EA

NP	Native American Religious Concerns Wyatt	7-24-2008	BBW	To date no Native American Tribe has identified any area of traditional concern
PI	T/E, and Sensitive Species (Finding on Standard 4) McGuire	7/18/08	MM	See analysis in EA.
NP	Wastes, Hazardous and Solid Hodgson	7/11/08	KH	There are no quantities of wastes, hazardous or solid, located on BLM-administered lands in the proposed project area, and there would be no wastes generated as a result of the Proposed Action or No Action alternative.
PI	Water Quality, Surface and Ground (Finding on Standard 5) Belcher	7/23/08	PB	See analysis in EA.
NI	Wetlands & Riparian Zones (Finding on Standard 2) Belcher	7/23/08	PB	The boat slide construction would widen a bare area and remove some upper streambank vegetation. It would replace a user-created path that is highly erodible and protect remaining vegetation from foot traffic.
NP	Wild and Scenic Rivers Sterin	7/7/08	BGS	This segment of the river has been determined to be eligible for wild and scenic river status during the RMP revision preparation. The Proposed Action or the No Action alternative would not impact the free flowing nature of the stream, nor will it affect the recreational classification.
NP	Wilderness Sterin	7/7/08	BGS	There is no designated Wilderness or Wilderness Study Areas in the proximity of the proposed project area.
NON-CRITICAL ELEMENTS (A finding must be made for these elements)				
PI	Soils (Finding on Standard 1) Belcher	7/23/08	PB	See analysis in EA.
PI	Vegetation (Finding on Standard 3) Johnson	7/29/08	RJ	See analysis in EA.
PI	Wildlife, Aquatic (Finding on Standard 3) McGuire	7/18/08	MM	See analysis in EA.
PI	Wildlife, Terrestrial (Finding on Standard 3) McGuire	7/18/08	MM	See analysis in EA.
OTHER NON-CRITICAL ELEMENTS				
PI	Access/Transportation Windsor	7/16/08	AW	See analysis in EA.
NI	Fire Wyatt	7/24/08	BBW	No impacts.
NP	Forest Management K.Belcher	7/18/08	KB	No forest resources present.
NI	Geology and Minerals Hodgson	7/11/08	KH	No impact.
NI	Hydrology/Water Rights Belcher	7/22/08	PB	The Proposed Action does not impact water rights. Hydrology concerns are in the Soils, Floodplains, and Water Quality sections.
PI	Paleontology Rupp	7/21/08	FGR	See analysis in EA.
NI	Noise Monkouski	7/23/08	JM	There would be short-term, minor noise impacts.
NI	Range Management Johnson	7/29/08	RJ	There would be no impacts.
NP	Lands/ Realty Authorizations Cassel	6/26/08	SC	There are no rights-of-way, leases or permits in the proposed project location. The easement to the BLM from Yust allows the public to use the road as a public access point for the confluence of the two rivers.
PI	Recreation Windsor	6/6/08	AW	See analysis in EA.
NI	Socio-Economics J. Stout	7/30/08	JS	There would be no impacts.
NI	Visual Resources Hodgson	7/11/08	KH	Class II VRM. The Proposed Action would not alter the existing visual character of the

				Confluence Recreation Site landscape, nor attract any additional attention.
NI	Cumulative Impact Summary J. Stout	7/30/08	JS	There would be no impacts.
FINAL REVIEW				
	P&E Coordinator J. Stout	7/30/08	JS	
	Field Manager D. Stout			